International Atomic Energy Agency
INFORMATION CIRCULAR

INF

INFCIRC/559
4 June 1998

GENERAL Distr.
Original: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION OF 2 JUNE 1998 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Attached is a communication received from the Permanent Mission of Japan, forwarding a statement by the Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Government of Japan, for the information of Member States.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number.

98-01898

Ref. No.: JPM/A/E-82-98

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN
VIENNA

Andromeda Tower
Donau-City Strasse 6
A-1220 Vienna
Austria

Telephone (++43) (1) 260 63-0
Facsimile (++43) (1) 263 6750

2 June 1998

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you herewith a statement by Kanezo Muraoka, Chief Cabinet Secretary of Japan, on the underground nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan on 30 May.

I would greatly appreciate it if the Agency could distribute these documents to all Member States.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enc.: As Noted

Yuji Ikeda
Resident Representative
of Japan to the
International Atomic Energy Agency

Mr. Mohamed Elbaradei
Director General
International Atomic Energy Agency
VIC Rm. A-2822

Provisional Translation 30 May 1998

Statement by Kanezo Muraoka, Chief Cabinet Secretary
on the underground nuclear tests conducted
by Pakistan on 30 May 1998

1. Shortly after 17:00 on 30 May 1998 (Japanese Time), Pakistan conducted underground nuclear testing for the second time, Japan regards most seriously the fact that Pakistan went ahead with this second testing despite the strong criticism from Japan and other members of the international community of its nuclear testing on 28 May, and strongly protests against the Government of Pakistan.

2. The repeated nuclear testing by Pakistan is a most dangerous step which hightens tensions in the region and threatens to undermine the foundations of the non-proliferatiojn regime. Japan in no way can condone this action.

Japan strongly urges that Pakistan earnestly heed the voice of the international community which calls upon it to discontinue nuclear testing and the development of nuclear weapons as well as to accede to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Mr. Keizo Obuchi, the Minister for Foreign Affairs will call in the Charge d'Affaires of Pakistan in Tokyo today in order to convey this message.

3. In the light of the development above, Japan will actively address the urgent issues of safeguarding the non-proliferation regime and peace in South Asia in such international fora as the United Nations Security Council.

(end)